

20 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Home Learning

Home learning is a key component of the curriculum provision at Hungerhill because there is a strong link between home learning and educational achievement. The completion of home learning can increase the time available for study by nearly 25%: over a five-year period, this can be equivalent to at least one additional year of full-time education.

Over the course of the last couple of weeks, assemblies and form time activities have been used to remind students of the importance of home learning, independent practice and to develop their ability to undertake these activities using the Hungerhill Study Skills. Please find below the key features of the Home Learning Policy at Hungerhill. The full policy is available via the school website.

WHAT Home Learning is set?

Our home learning policy is built around the importance of retrieval to embed knowledge and skills. This, however, does not exclude other home learning foci such as project work or completing essential tasks that were started in lesson time.

WHEN is Home Learning set?

Home learning should be set every 2-5 lessons, depending on the contact time for each subject. Exceptions to this may be during schemes of learning in vocational/practical curriculum areas where the focus on retrieval may not be as prominent.

WHERE is Home Learning set?

All home learning will be logged by teachers on Teams through Assignments.
Maths will continue setting through Sparx.
Students must record all Home Learning in their student planners.

HOW will parents/carers be able to monitor their child's Home Learning?

Each week you will receive email updates regarding your child. One will be specific to Maths, via Sparx and will notify parents when homework tasks are set, a deadline is pending and your child's progress towards completion. A further email will be sent directly from Microsoft Teams and will provide information of how many assignments have been set, how many have been handed-in and which have not. Further to this, parents should regularly check their child's student planner to ensure they are effectively recording their home learning to support with organisation.

HOW can parents/carers support their child with Home Learning?

As you will be aware, we promote the Hungerhill Study Skills with all our students, each being issued with a pack to support them to develop the skills to effectively undertake independent studies. As parents you can support your child by encouraging them to trial these strategies and ensure time and resources are available for them. Further tips include:

- Set up a dedicated study area – Ensure your child has an area where they can stay productive and focussed.
- Help them manage their time – Devise a schedule that works for them.
- Get the balance – Relaxation, exercise and socialisation are important – ensure that time is provided for these activities to take place.
- Communicate with your child – Check in with your child regularly to help support and identify early any issues.
- Monitor completion – Check your child’s planner daily and look out for the email updates from Sparx and Teams.
- Don’t be afraid to ask – We don’t expect you to be the experts so please communicate with your child’s teachers if there are any issues or if additional help is required. Additionally, there are fantastic resources available online.

How Can School Support our Students with Home Learning?

Study Support sessions run in the school Library Monday-Thursday from 3.10-4.00pm. Any student is welcome to attend and will have access to IT facilities and adult supervision. This provides students with a space and equipment which is conducive to a positive climate for learning.

The completion of home learning is an expectation of all students at Hungerhill. High quality home learning and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class and, where appropriate, shared on other forums such as the Hungerhill Twitter account. Bonuses, rewards and positive texts to parents/carers for achievement and sustained effort will be regularly awarded for good home learning. As from Monday 16 January, where home learning is not completed, this will be recorded by class teachers as an ‘IN’, a sanction issued and will be reflected in the ‘Attitude to Learning’ grades awarded alongside progress reports throughout the year.

As ever, thank you for your continued support and we hope that the revision to the home learning policy outlined above will strengthen the school-home partnership.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Storey
Deputy Headteacher

